

REMARKS

In this Amendment, claims 1-5 and 16-18 are canceled and claims 6-7 are amended, thereby leaving claims 6-15 pending.

The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences affirmed the rejection against independent claim 1, but reversed all rejections against claims 6-15 dependent thereon. Following the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences decision, the applicants were required to present the dependent claims 6-15 in independent form. Applicants have cancelled claims 1-5 and amended claim 6 to place claim 6 in independent form. Claim 6 now includes the subject matter of base claim 1 and intervening claim 5. Therefore, claim 6 is now allowable. Claim 7 has been amended to address a formatting issue in the claim. Claims 7-15 depend from currently amended independent claim 6, and are therefore allowable as well.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the present Amendment and allowance of the application. The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,



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